

**Grace A. Dow Memorial Library  
Library Board  
Minutes  
Wednesday, January 15, 2014, 7 p.m.  
Library Board Room**

I. Roll Call

Burhans called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Melissa Barnard, Maxine Brink, Michael Burhans, Lucille Cronin, Sarah Galt, Laura Peterson, Debra Hayes, Steve Markey

ALSO PRESENT: Ron Beacom, Manager of MCTV and Library Communications; Roberta VanHolstyn, Technical Secretary.

II. Acceptance of October 16, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Cronin to accept minutes, seconded by Peterson. Motion approved.

III. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

None

IV. Public Comments

None

V. Directors Report

Barnard reported that the library renovation project has been the main focus to date, but library programs are getting back to their normal schedules.

As part of the Great Michigan Read program, a panel discussion on the mental health system in the Midland area will be held January 22<sup>nd</sup> with professionals from MidMichigan Health, Community Mental Health for Central Michigan, and a law firm specializing in family law. Steven Luxenberg, author of "Annie's Ghosts," will talk about his book at a program in the library auditorium on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Cronin inquired whether Board members were needed to host the author program. Evaluation forms will be distributed and volunteers would be appreciated.

Barnard noted that the annual Cram Night for high school students is January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Happenings 2014 will be held in March and April, and will tie in with National Library Week. Ron Beacom reported that the theme for Happenings will be "Come Play @ Your Library," alluding to Alden B. Dow's playroom and the new, bright colors at the library. Programs for children, teens and adults are being planned.

World Book Night book distribution is April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Beacom explained that various groups such as the Library Board and Friends of the Library will be invited to distribute books provided at no cost to the library to various locations and organizations in the community. Twenty copies each of ten titles will be available. The program is funded in part by FedEx, and other benefactors. Hayes, Burhans, Galt, and Cronin indicated that they would like to participate.

Burhans commented that he likes the name change of the lounge to the Community Room.

VI. Patron Comments and Suggestions

SIGNED COMMENTS:

1. We miss the train . . . my boys and I haven't seen it in quite a while.

**Parts to repair the train engine are on order. The train will hopefully be ready when the renovations are completed in the Youth Services area.**

2. I've noticed in the non-fiction part of the library, the part where I like to study, some people will often take calls on their cell phones, and neglect to realize many people around them are studying. I think a sign reminding people to please keep quiet and take all calls either outside or at the front lobby would be very helpful to the rest of the people trying to study.

**Any disruptive cell phone use should be reported to the librarians at the Reference Desk.**

UNSIGNED COMMENTS: None

VII. Library Renovations Update

Barnard reviewed the status and the progress of the heating and cooling project, the carpeting, restrooms and lobby renovations. The tagging and encoding of materials for self check continues. Completion of the renovation will be late February or early March.

VIII. Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative Report

Cronin reported that the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative Board meeting was cancelled due to the weather. A virtual meeting will be held January 21<sup>st</sup>.

IX. 2013-2014 Strategic Plan update

Barnard met with Lee Rouse, Strategic Plan facilitator, to review the input from the Strategic Plan team to rework the Mission and Vision Statements. The team will review the statements at their next meeting along with the development of the strategic plan goals and objectives. The completed plan will be included on the next Board meeting agenda for Board members to review and comment. Board members Cronin, Hayes, and Galt serve on the team.

Hayes commented that the data received through the focus groups was positive overall. Galt pointed out that acting on the gathered data will be a challenge in regard to the smaller response segments. Cronin noted the differing viewpoints of the various focus groups as to what a public library should be.

X. Announcements

Ron Beacom informed the Board that Barnard will discuss the library renovations in an upcoming "City in 15" program to be aired on MCTV.

Library outreach continues with outside banners advertising Story Time and other programs, as well as newspaper articles submitted by various staff members. Articles are also being submitted to Tridge Life.

MCTV will be taping the Great Michigan Read panel discussion program on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, as well as the program on January 28<sup>th</sup> featuring Steve Luxenberg, author of "Annie's Ghosts", the Great Michigan Read Book selection. These programs will be aired on MCTV.

Beacom noted that due to recent changes made by Charter, MCTV channels are moving from 96-99 to 188-191 starting January 21, 2014.

Burhans complimented the library staff on its Facebook page.

XI. Adjournment

Brink moved to adjourn. Hayes seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Next meeting date is February 19, 2014.